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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

PARTY REFORM MEETS LITTLE ENTHUSIASM;
CANTONESE DISPLAY FEWER PICTURES OF STALIN

Communist and other political parties in Canton are actively pushing the reform movement, the aim of which is to purge all elements that are unstable and do not adhere to Marxist-Leninist principles. All government agencies have set up training classes for their members in the hope of attaining uniformity of thought and action. Insiders say that in this movement two obstacles have been encountered: (1) many Party members and cadres are sick of reform movements and enter this one in a perfunctory way, saying an ideological catharsis has just taken place, and this movement is just one more too many; (2) many cadres claim to be old hands and ask who will dare reform them. "I am a '38", "I am a '40", one hears in the government buildings (meaning the speaker joined the Party in 1938 or 1940). In the other parties, the junior cadres take no interest in the reform movement. They merely hold a meeting and have some speeches.

The state-promoted party reform effort is meeting with little response in the South China area. Party cadres think of it as just one more thing to do. It fails because the leaders are not setting an example. In government offices it was pursued rather carelessly and other party units followed suit.

All over southern Kwangtung, meetings of peasant delegates are infiltrated by intellectuals and rich peasants disguised in rather shabby peasant garb. The reason for this is that the poor working peasants take no interest in political conferences, and do not care to participate. The area secretary, Liu T'ien-fu, confesses that for the past 6 months such conferences have been marked more by defects than by accomplishments. More than 90 percent of China's peasants abhor politics.

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GRAIN COLLECTOR TOLD NOT TO REJECT GRAIN -- Hong Kong Hsin-sheng Wan-pao,
21 Aug 50

On 29 July 1950, when the grain levy was being brought in to the Shih-ku granary, the grain collector was too strict and rejected 50,000 catties out of an anticipated 100,000 on the ground that the grain had been watered or adulterated. The peasants were very angry. They cursed the People's government and surrounded and beat the collector. He then accepted all the grain and made apology. Thus the dispute was settled. The authorities have instructed collectors not to let this happen again.

CANTON CELEBRATES FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF PEOPLE'S GOVERNMENT -- Hong Kong Hsin-sheng Wan-pao, 2 Oct 50

Canton -- Countless five-star red flags bedecked the streets of Canton, on 1 October, to commemorate the establishment of the Chinese People's Republic just one year ago. A 3-day celebration was marked by day and night processions of 150,000 in this city of a million or more.

The one hope of the people is that the Communists will enable them to live on in peace. If the Communists think they can drive the people here into a war against the US, they are grievously mistaken. A consensus of opinion from all classes on the eve of the national celebration reveals that the people want China to be freed from Soviet domination and to be truly independent. Whether Mao Tse-tung, chairman of the national government, will become the leader of an independent socialist nation is also a question discussed by the people here.

According to unofficial count, the number of posters of Stalin and Lenin among those of revolutionary leaders has suddenly dropped. At the big celebration of Canton's liberation last year, pictures of Stalin were very numerous and were placed in front of those of Sun Yat-sen and of Mao Tse-tung. In the parades this year, the pictures of Stalin were reduced in number by one third.

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